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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, September 17, 2012, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2012

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BISHOP of Utah).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 14, 2012.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ROB BISHOP to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Monsignor Stephen Rossetti, associate professor, the Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, offered the following prayer:

Good and gracious God, today more than ever, we are aware that we are small, that we are made of the Earth, and that we are mortal. In our weakness, may You be our shield. In our humility, may You be our strength. In our mortality, may You be our source of eternal life. May people of every party and nation unite together in their human frailty. May they proclaim with one voice and one heart that we are one people united in serving You and in loving our brothers and sisters. Our prayer today is small. Our voice is weak. We trust that You incline Your ear and You will hear this simple prayer. We thank You.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CICILLINE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

PRESIDENT'S LACK OF LEADERSHIP IS ENDANGERING AMERICAN FAMILIES

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, the 11th anniversary of September 11, 2001, there was a cowardly, murderous terrorist attack

at the American consulate in Benghazi, Libya. Our Embassy was breached in Cairo, Egypt, with the American flag being desecrated.

Unfortunately, the President's failed leadership has led to weakness, reducing the Army to the smallest size since 1939, reducing the Navy to the smallest fleet since 1916, and reducing the Air Force to the smallest size since it was created. This endangers our national security and puts American families and our allies at risk. Additionally, the President supports sequestration and has done nothing to halt the defense budget cuts which will limit the capabilities of our Armed Forces while destroying hundreds of thousands of jobs.

American families deserve better. To continue to promote democracy and peace, we must implement President Ronald Reagan's approach of providing peace through strength. The bias of the coordinated disinformation of the liberal media is a disgrace to journalism.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th in the global war on terrorism.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to implore my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to put aside politics and get to work on behalf of the American people.

Just 61 bills have been signed into law this year, the fewest in more than 60 years. There have been two noted

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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congressional historians, Norm Ornstein and Thomas Mann, who have said:

We have no choice but to acknowledge that the core of the problem lies with the Republican Party.

They go on to say:

Today, thanks to the GOP, compromise has gone out the window in Washington.

Despite this reality, we have to get some important work done for those who sent us here. Republicans continue to choose politics over policy, ignoring critical legislation which requires our attention.

After returning from a 5-week recess, the House Republican leadership has scheduled only 5 days in session in September, despite this growing list of important challenges facing our country.

While we voted 33 times to repeal the Affordable Care Act and passed a budget that ends the guarantee of Medicare, much work remains, including extending tax cuts for the middle class, comprehensive jobs legislation like the Make It In America agenda, reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act, postal reform, and a big, balanced plan to reduce the deficit.

I ask my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, let's get to work.

PEYTON BELL

(Mr. BARROW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Peyton Bell, who's moved on from my staff after 2 years of service to the citizens of Georgia's 12th District.

A native Augustan, Peyton came highly recommended after graduating from Rhodes College and interning with the U.S. Senate. He began as a legislative correspondent but was quickly promoted, becoming my point man on veterans' affairs issues. His hard work was rewarded with more work, and he assumed the dual roles of legislative assistant and press secretary, no small feat.

Peyton has recently taken on two new roles, having married the former Kate Parker this July, and enrolling in the University of Georgia School of Law this fall. I know he will handle these responsibilities the way he handles life—with humor, enthusiasm, and dedication.

Peyton, you have the appreciation of many grateful constituents and of this proud Congressman. Thank you for a job well done.

REMEMBERING SAN DIEGO VICTIMS OF LIBYA ATTACK

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, San Diegans are very sad today because they learned yesterday that two

of the Libya victims were from the San Diego area. As we know, they were killed in the consulate in Benghazi, protecting fellow Americans there with Ambassador Chris Stevens and Sean Smith.

The two victims from San Diego were Tyrone Woods and Glen Doherty. In talking about Mr. Doherty, a friend said:

You never take off your uniform. You hang it in the closet, but everything that went along with it is still there. All the training and the dedication that you have to your Nation is what drives these guys.

And also for Tyrone Woods, a friend said:

If there were more people like him, the country would be in much better shape. We need people to keep doing what he was doing because he really believed in freedom, and he really believed in the United States.

As we know, these were two highly decorated military SEALs who had left the community of SEALs and were serving with the consulate there and with the State Department in Libya. We certainly celebrate their life and we mourn their death. I want to recognize their families and let them know that our thoughts and our prayers are with them.

CONSTITUTION AND CITIZENSHIP DAY

(Mr. CUMMINGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, this fall we will walk to voting booths in every community across this Nation to elect our leaders. Our right to vote is one of many rights guaranteed by our Constitution. Yet every election cycle, millions of young Americans fail to exercise this right, often because they do not realize the importance of doing so.

On September 17, we will celebrate the 225th anniversary of the signing of our Nation's Constitution. To mark that momentous anniversary, this week I introduced the Constitution and Citizenship Day Act of 2012, H.R. 6390.

This bill would support expanded education about our Constitution by enabling high school students to organize special events to mark Constitution and Citizenship Day.

Our young people should be given every opportunity to learn what our democracy means and to partake in it. The Congress is the living embodiment of our Constitution's provisions. I invite all Members on both sides of the aisle to join me in cosponsoring this legislation to ensure that future generations understand their rights, duties, and responsibilities.

□ 0910

JOB TRAINING

(Mr. CLARKE of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I met a young entrepreneur who owns a remanufacturing business headquartered in Metro Detroit. In spite of his success, he faces one major challenge—he can't hire enough people with the skills necessary to rebuild the products that could be sold around the world. So that's why I ask this House, this Congress, to stay in session to do our work so that we can train our people, especially our young people, for the jobs that exist in this country that are going unfilled; train them with the skills that they need to sell and rebuild the best products that can be sold worldwide. This is how we can create more jobs in our economy and make the United States an even stronger contributor to our world.

NO MORE SOLYNDRAS ACT

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 6213.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 779 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 6213.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 0912

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 6213) to limit further taxpayer exposure from the loan guarantee program established under title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, with Mr. BISHOP of Utah in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) and the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE) each will control 45 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I care about America's energy future, and I certainly care about America's fiscal future as well. For those two reasons, I would urge every one of us here to vote "yes" on the No More Solyndras Act.

On the energy front, I continue to advocate concrete measures towards achieving North American energy independence. That includes approving the Keystone XL pipeline, it includes increasing conventional and renewable